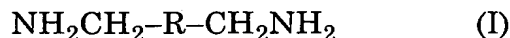


WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of producing a di(aminomethyl)-substituted aromatic compound represented by the following formula I:



5 wherein R is a bivalent aromatic group and optionally substituted by a group inert to hydrogenation,

by a two-stage hydrogenation comprising:

a first stage of hydrogenating an aromatic dinitrile represented by the following formula II:



wherein R is the same as defined above,

into a cyano(aminomethyl)-substituted aromatic compound represented by the following formula III:



15 wherein R is the same as defined above,

in the presence of a catalyst X containing Pd; and

a second stage of hydrogenating the cyano(aminomethyl)-substituted aromatic compound from the first stage into the di(aminomethyl)-substituted aromatic compound in the presence of a catalyst Y containing Ni and/or Co.

20 2. The method according to Claim 1, wherein the catalyst X comprises 0.05 to 10% by weight of Pd carried on a support.

3. The method according to Claim 2, wherein the support is alumina.

4. The method according to Claim 1, wherein the catalyst Y is prepared by a precipitation method to carry Ni and/or Co on a support.

25 5. The method according to Claim 1, wherein the catalyst Y is a Raney nickel catalyst of a Raney cobalt catalyst.